

BUDGET

(Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, the majority has now finally admitted what we have suspected for months: They have no intention of fulfilling their obligation to draft and pass a Federal budget.

This fiscal irresponsibility on display in Washington is affecting American citizens, and it is further damaging our economy and job growth. It is widely known and, thankfully, widely reported that the reason we won't be seeing a budget this year is to evade calling further attention to an addiction to reckless spending.

The Federal debt has gone up by nearly \$2.4 trillion since January of 2009 and by \$240 billion just since the budget was due back in April of this year. Undoubtedly and correctly, Democrat leaders fear that the public will be shocked at this figure, and will be shocked at the future debt that a budget would show.

So they seek to hide behind a 1-year "deeming motion," but the consequences of their shame shows a lack of fiscal discipline and a lack of responsible economic policy. America needs a reasonable, pro-growth economic policy to promote job growth and business development.

JOBS

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, the failed policies of the Bush administration brought our economy to the brink 2 years ago, and while our economy is showing signs of growth, unemployment is still at unacceptable levels.

There are still too many families having to sit down at the table, who are having to decide which bills they can afford to pay each month. There are still families finding themselves with underwater mortgages—many of them losing their homes.

I ask my colleagues: How would you feel if this were your family or a family member you knew?

We need to make sure that hard-working Americans are able to come home with a sense of pride after a day's work, not with a sense of fear about bills they can't afford. Too many of our families are struggling to make ends meet. Let's build a momentum of job creation as with the HomeStar, the HIRE Act, and the Small Business Lending Fund Act, which provide incentives for growth and innovation.

America deserves better from their government. I am committed to making sure that happens, but Republicans and Democrats must come together for the betterment of this country.

MORE MEDDLING BY MEXICO

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Mexico has joined a lawsuit against Arizona's new illegal immigration enforcement law.

In its legal brief, Mexico says the Arizona law is unconstitutional. That's right. The foreign country of Mexico is lecturing us on our Constitution.

I guess President Calderon, like our Attorney General, hasn't read Arizona's law either, because the Arizona law is constitutional. President Calderon just doesn't want the law enforced. He wants open borders so illegals can illegally come to America.

By the way, hypocritical Mexico enforces its own immigration laws, but it doesn't want us to do the same. President Calderon should not meddle in U.S. affairs.

If the Feds join the lawsuit against Arizona, it will be Mexico and the U.S. Government vs. Arizona. Ironically, Mexico and the U.S. Government together will be arguing against border security and public safety while Arizona will be arguing for the basic right to protect its citizens.

Isn't there something wrong with that concept?

And that's just the way it is.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE ECONOMY
OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, this past Monday, southeastern Connecticut received blockbuster news when it was announced that Electric Boat will be acquiring 700,000 square feet of office space from Pfizer pharmaceutical company. This is space from which Pfizer was going to be departing as part of its global reorganization. EB's decision to come in and acquire this space is huge, and it is good news for the economy of southeastern Connecticut.

It is not happening in a vacuum. This space is needed because the workforce is growing. There are new jobs in southeastern Connecticut because this Congress recognized that our submarine fleet, which had been underfunded under the prior administration, was running into end dates for the Ohio class submarine program.

We have invested, over the last 3 years, in growing the workforce and in research, development, and engineering. These new jobs will ensure that we will have a submarine fleet well into the later stages of the 21st century. It will provide stability for the economy of southeastern Connecticut, and it will maintain that Groton, Connecticut, will become and will remain the submarine capital of the world.

IN PRAISE OF DON MOSS, THE
WORLD'S HARDEST-WORKING
VOLUNTEER

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Don Moss of Pilot Mountain, North Carolina, who is a dedicated volunteer at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

Why is Mr. Moss so special? Because, over the past three decades, he has racked up 47,000 volunteer hours at the hospital—a Guinness World Record.

Mr. Moss currently donates 48 hours of his time each week to the hospital—working 12 hours a day and serving up a healthy dose of good cheer and plain old helpfulness. He has a well-deserved reputation for looking out for patients and for his humor and humility.

North Carolina is, indeed, blessed to be the home of people like Mr. Moss. His service to the community and his staggering number of volunteer hours illustrate a true spirit of selfless generosity to those in need.

I congratulate Mr. Moss on his record-breaking time of service, and I hope that others will be inspired by his example to invest their time and abilities in their communities.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT-
ELECT OF COLOMBIA, JUAN
MANUEL SANTOS

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the orderly and peaceful election that took place in Colombia. I congratulate the President-elect of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos, and I commend the people of Colombia for their relentless dedication to the democratic process that was shown through this election.

In an increasingly volatile region, Colombia has continued on the path towards reform while combating drug trafficking and terrorism, efforts which have had a positive effect on Colombian and American national security. Additionally, Colombia has made remarkable progress on other fronts, emerging as an important growth market and as a leading center for Latin American business.

In the face of hostility towards U.S. interests and values, Colombia has consistently proven itself to be an important friend, a reliable partner, and a champion for democracy. The positive bilateral relationship between the United States and Colombia has been based on many common strategic and ideological interests, reaffirming Colombia's position as an important ally and as a longtime friend of the United States.

Again, I congratulate President-elect Juan Manuel Santos on his victory. I look forward to a continued partnership between our two nations.